

Message Text

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ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 EB-07 USIA-15 /033 W

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R 271321Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 442

INFO AMCONSUL CALI

AMCONSUL MEDELLIN

UNCLAS BOGOTA 8158

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: BEXP CO

SUBJ: MICHIGAN IOGA TRADE MISSION

REF: STATE 188866

1. EMBASSY DELIGHTED TO HEAR OF NEW MISSION. THERE IS A LARGE MARKET IN COLOMBIA FOR TOOLS, DIES, AND MACHINERY AND A MISSION OF THIS NATURE SHOULD BE QUITE SUCCESSFUL HERE.

2. POST RECOMMENDS NOV 2-15 FOR MISSION. DECEMBER IS THE MAIL HOLIDAY MONTH IN COLOMBIA AND A DIFFICULT TIME FOR DOING BUSINESS. NOVEMBER 11 IS A COLOMBIAN NATIONAL HOLIDAY, BUT SCHEDULE CAN BE ARRANGE ACCORDINGLY.

3. POST STRONGLY RECOMMENDS THAT MISSION SUBSTITUTE BARRANQUILLA FOR CARTAGENA, SINCE MARKET FOR INDUSTRIAL GOODS IS MUCH LARGER IN BARRANQUILLA. HOWEVER, MISSION SHOULD BE ADVISED THAT BARRANQUILLA MARKET, WHILE FOURTH LARGEST IN COLOMBIA, IS CONSIDERABLY SMALLER THAN THE OTHER THREE.

4. US HAS NO CONSULATE IN EITHER BARRANQUILLA OR CARTAGENA. ALTHOUGH SOME ASSISTANCE CAN BE OBTAINED FROM US BINATIONAL CENTER AND COLOMBIAN METALWORKING FEDERATION, THESE ORGANIZATIONS ARE NOT EXPERIENCED IN HANDLING A US TYPE TRADE MISSION. THEREFORE, IN ORDER TO ASSURE A FULL AND PRODUCTIVE SCHEDULE

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IN BARRANQUILLA, WE RECOMMEND THAT MISSION ORGANIZERS

FUND A) A LOCAL HIRE SECRETARY FOR SIX DAYS AND
B) TWO ROUND TRIPS (BOGOTA-BARRANQUILLA-BOGOTA) AND FIVE
DAYS PER DIEM FOR AN EMBASSY FSL TO SUPERVISE
ARRANGEMENTS.

5. POST RECOMMENDS FOLLOWING ITINERARY:
ARRIVE BOGOTA SUNDAY NOVEMBER 2. BUSINESS NOVEMBER
3,4,5. ARRIVE CALI LATE WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 5.
BUSINESS NOVEMBER 6,7. ARRIVE MEDELLIN WEEKEND
NOVEMBER 8-9. BUSINESS NOV 10 & 12.
NOV 11 IS NATIONAL HOLIDAY BUT SOME APPOINTMENTS
MAY BE POSSIBLE. ARRIVE BARRANQUILLA LATE WEDNESDAY
AFTERNOON NOV 12. BUSINESS NOVEMBER 13 & 14.
RETURN TO US WEEKEND NOV 15-16.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BOGOTA08158
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750296-1201
From: BOGOTA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750811/aaaaaixq.tel
Line Count: 76
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION COME
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 188866
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: hartledg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 JAN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 JAN 2003 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <30 JAN 2004 by hartledg>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MICHIGAN IOGA TRADE MISSION
TAGS: BEXP, CO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006